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ABSTRACT

This children's activity book was designed with the intention of being used by children ages 5-12 on rainy days or slow times while enjoying the Northwoods of Minnesota. It contains puzzles, mazes, dot-to-dot drawings, games, and an outdoor treasure hunt. Included is a 74-entry glossary. (TW)

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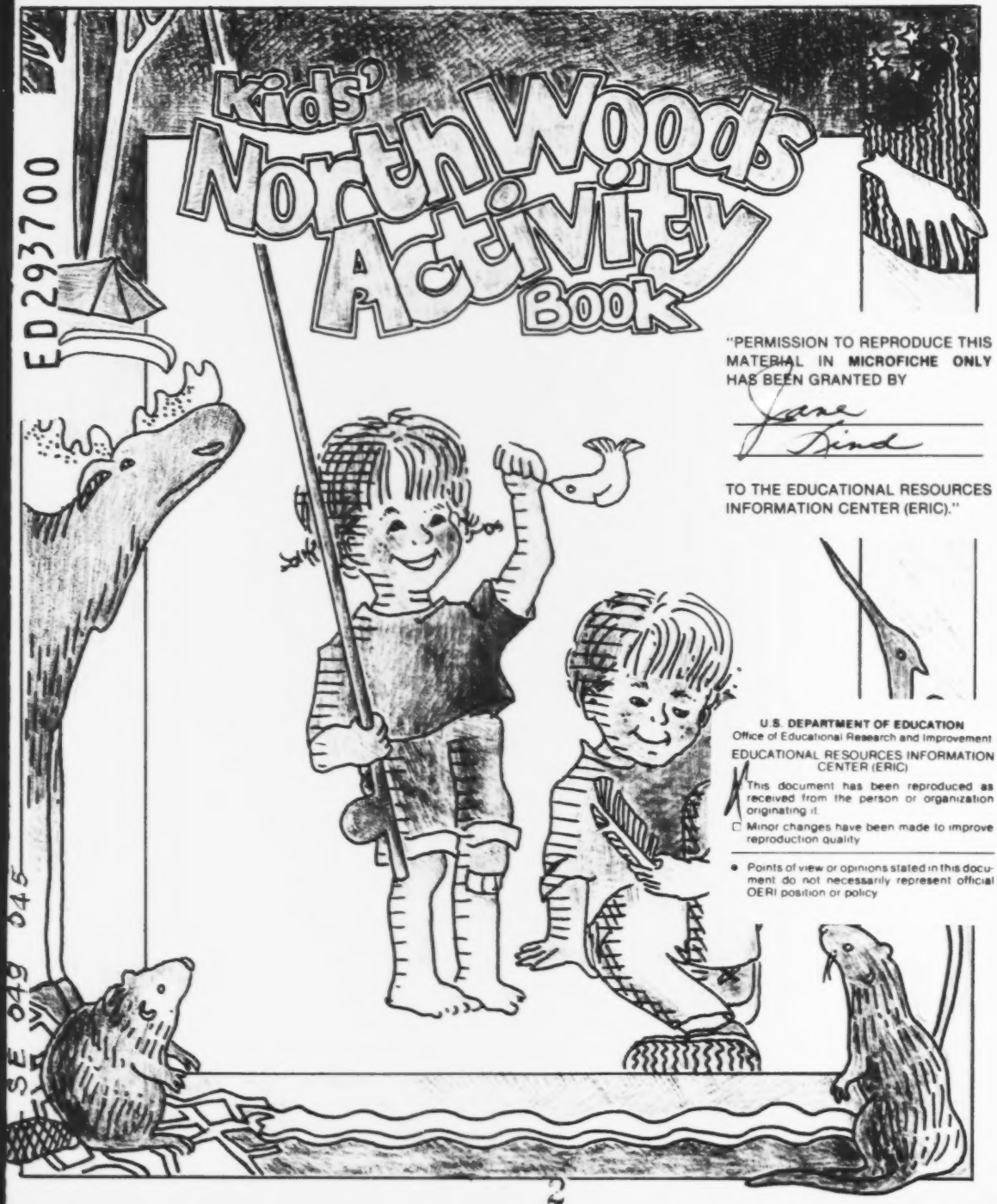

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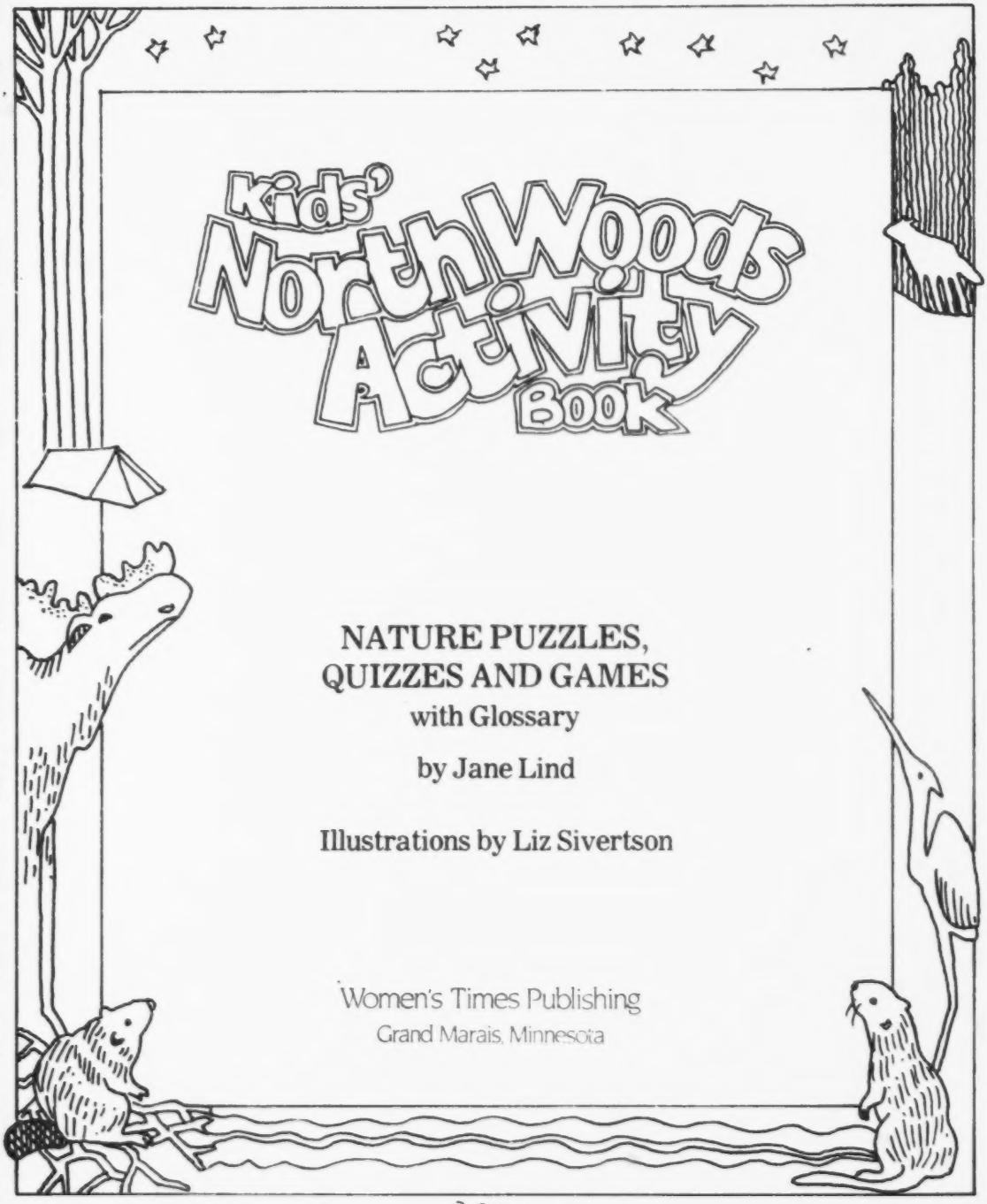

NATURE PUZZLES, QUIZZES AND GAMES

with Glossary

by Jane Lind

Illustrations by Liz Sivertson

Women's Times Publishing
Grand Marais, Minnesota

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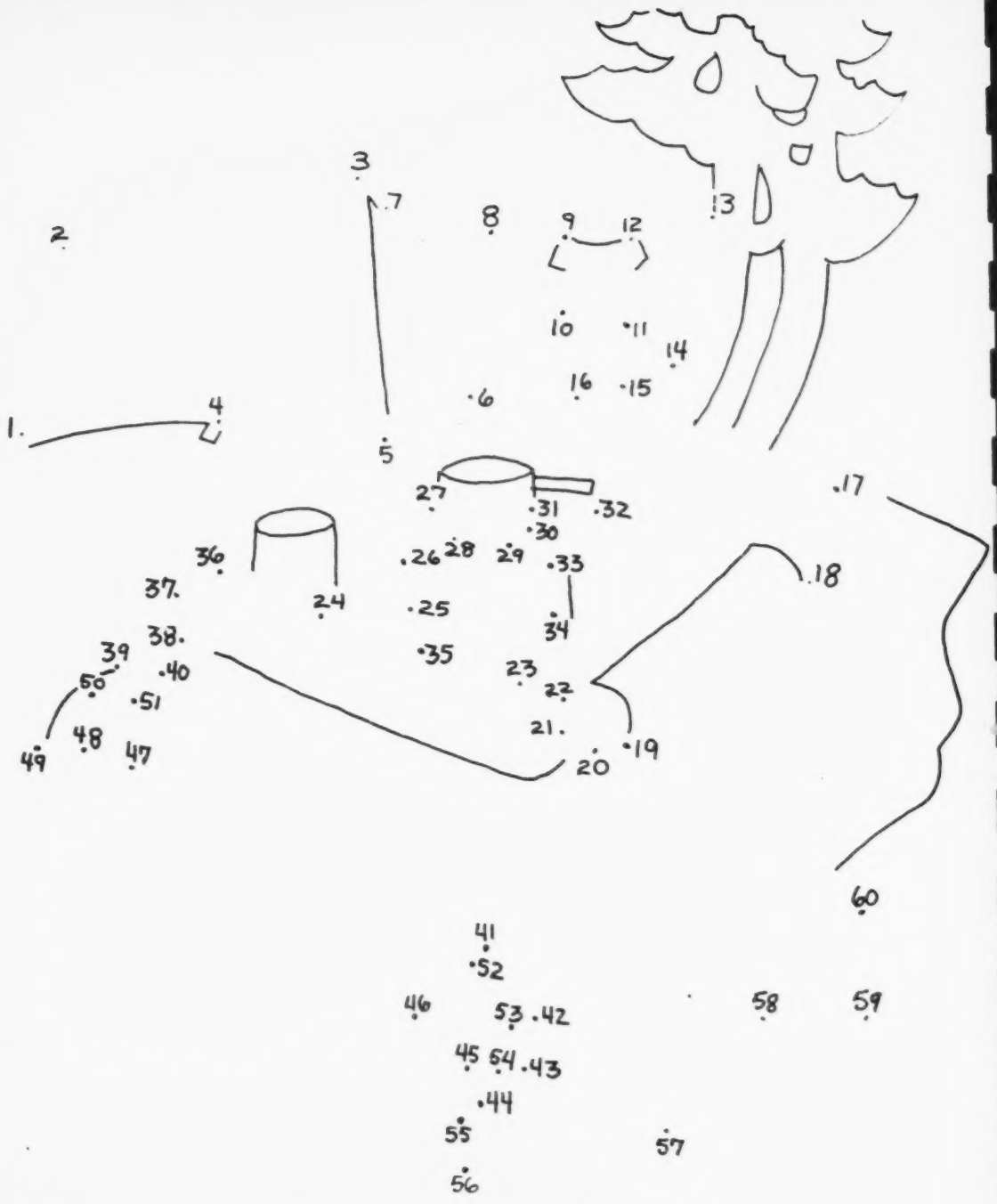
ISBN 0-910259-06-2

Carly wandered away from camp while picking raspberries. Now she hears her mother calling her. Help Carly find her way back to camp, but don't cross any bushes!

Nature Quiz

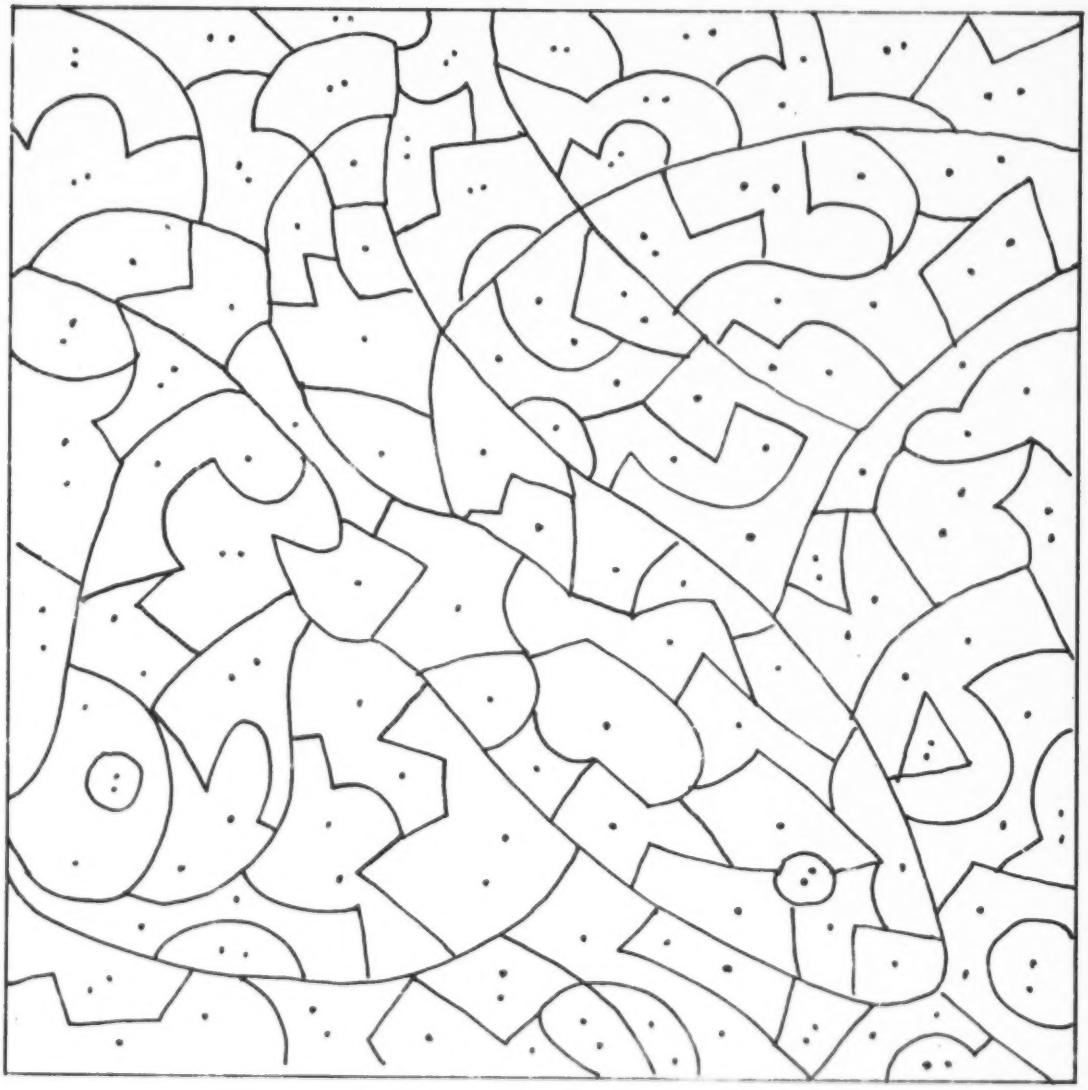
1. What tree loses its leaves for winter, but keeps its berries?
   a - birch b - maple c - mountain ash d - tamarack
2. What animals (two) have brown fur in summer and white fur in winter?
   a - mink b - fox c - weasel or ermine d - snowshoe rabbit
3. Which of these animals hibernate in winter?
   a - deer b - bear c - moose d - skunk e - squirrel
4. Small flying insect that bites but doesn't buzz?
   a - fly b - wasp c - blackfly d - mosquito
5. What is the largest fresh water lake in the world?
   a - Lake Superior b - Black Sea c - Lake Michigan
6. What distinguishes male deer from females?
   a - color b - spots c - antlers d - mane
7. What animal hunting license is given for one animal for four people?
   a - deer b - mink c - moose d - weasel

Connect the dots to see one of the largest animals in the woods.

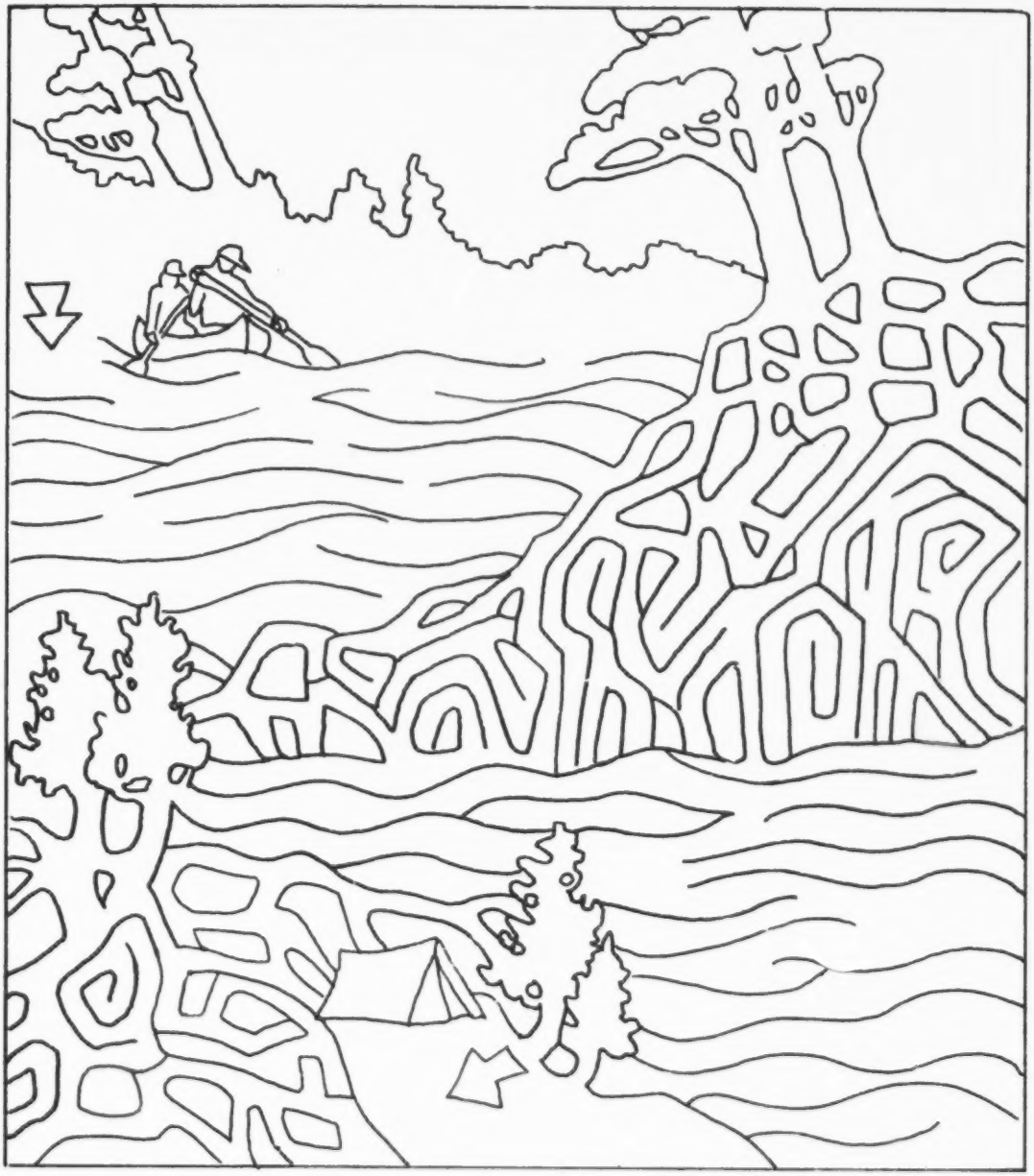


Connect the dots 1 - 60.

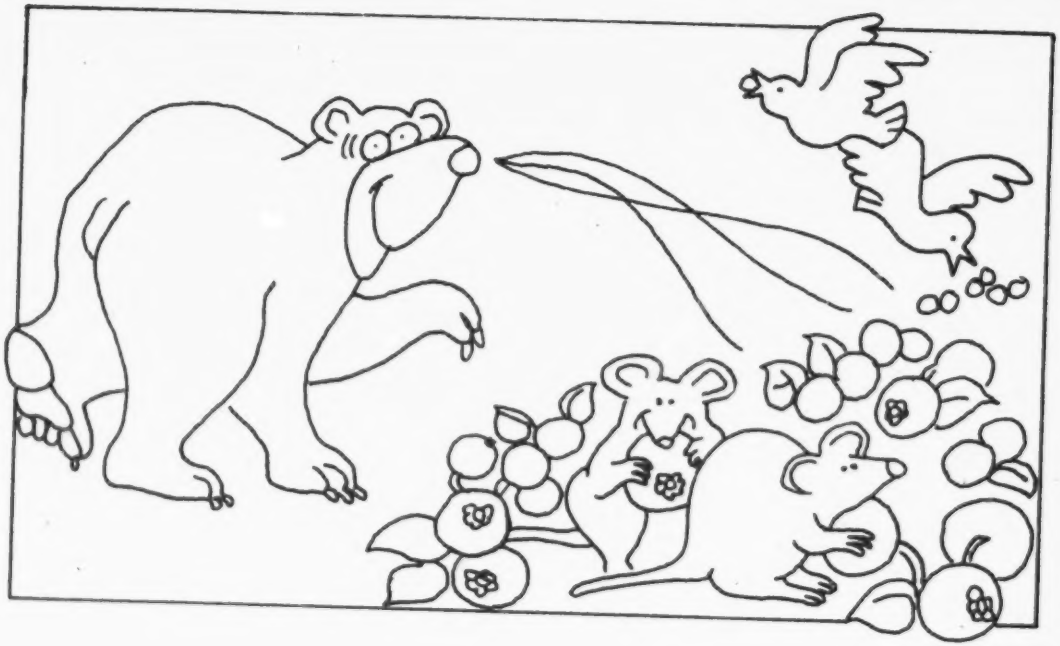
Find these items in the large picture:
Then, color the picture.



Color the spaces with one dot in them - GREEN.
Color the spaces with two dots in them - BLUE.



Help these tired canoeists find their campsite. But watch out – you may have to portage or even climb a tree!



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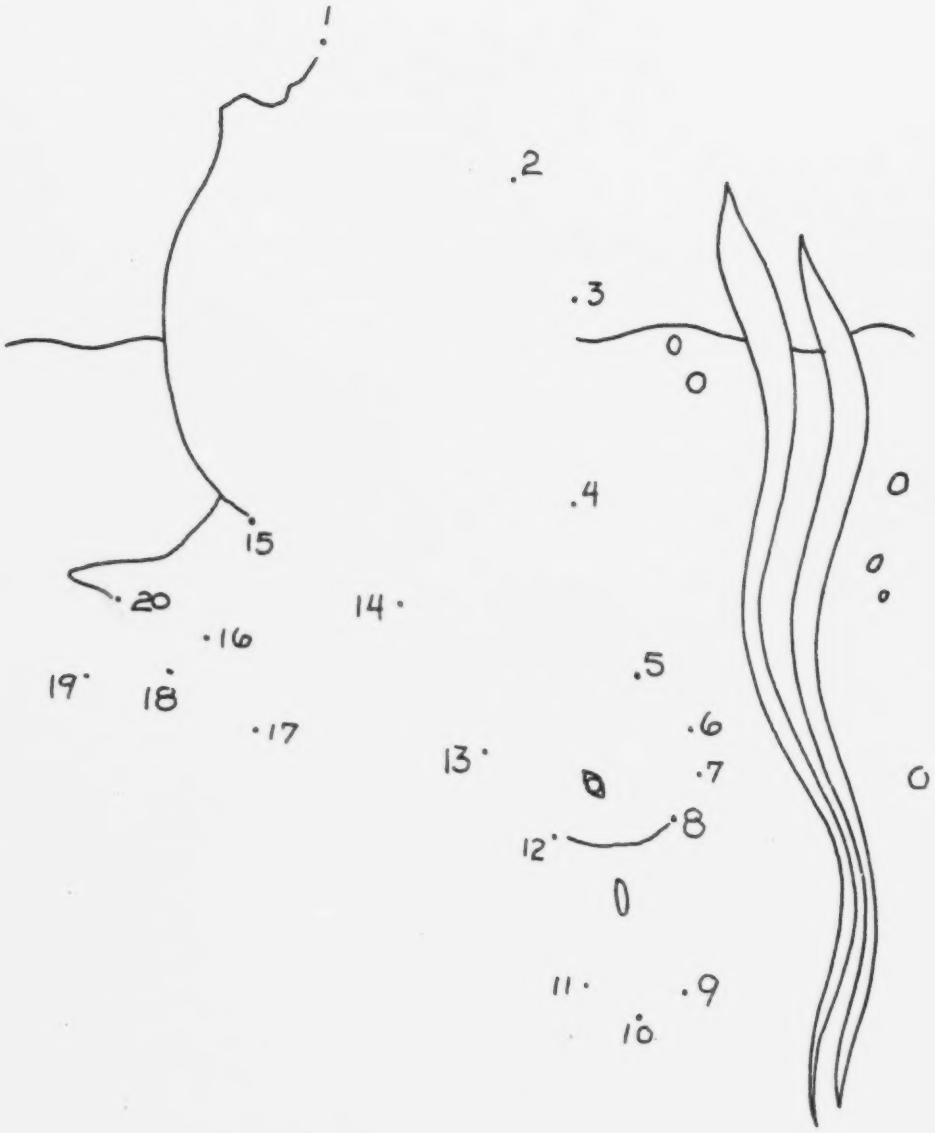
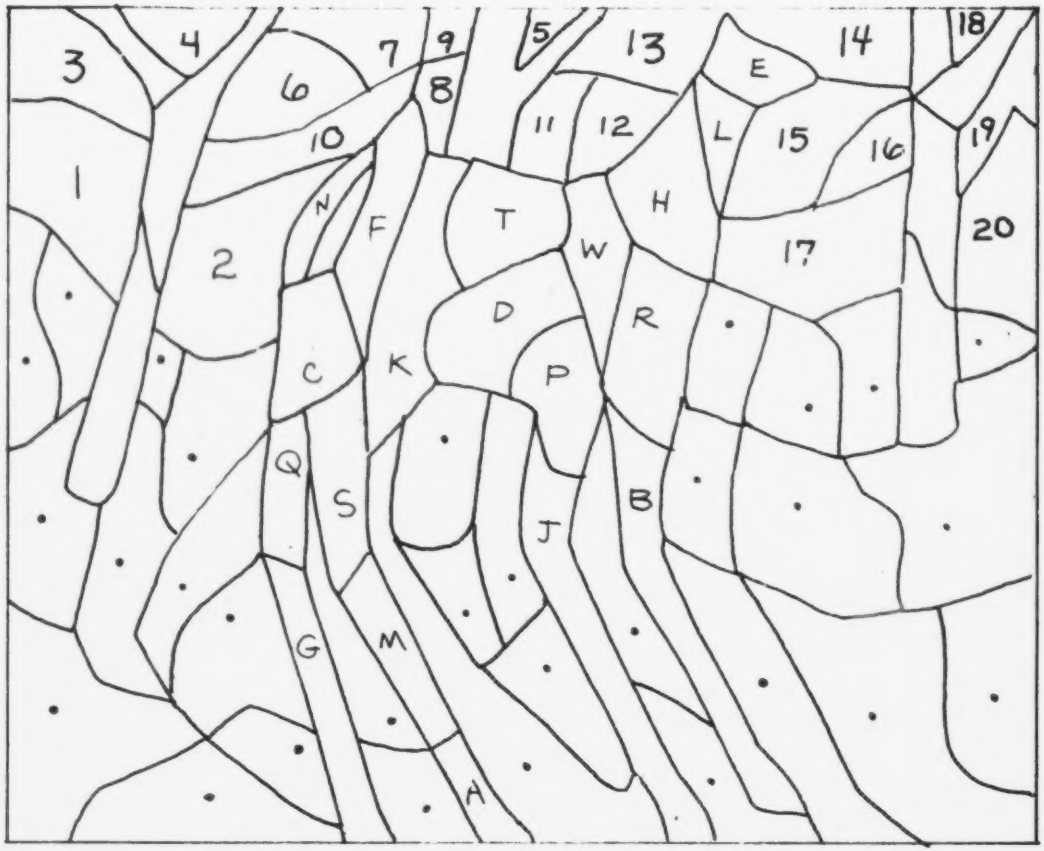


Connect the dots 1 - 20.



Color BLUE all the spaces with numbers.

Color GREEN all the spaces with dots in them.

Color BROWN all the spaces with letters in them.

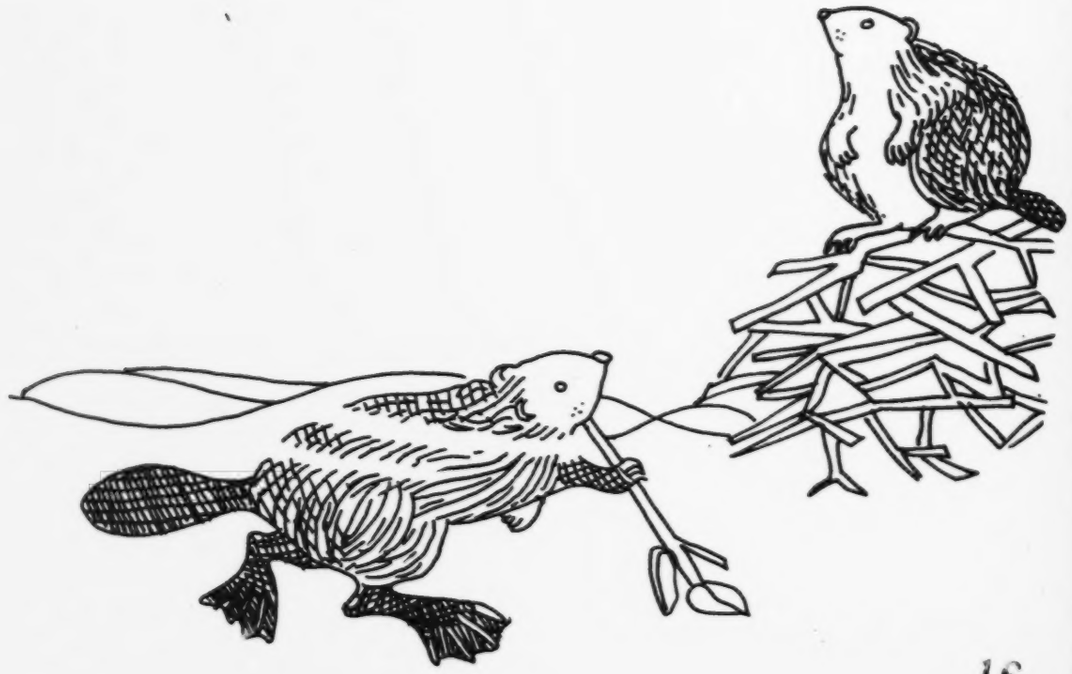
Do not color the empty shapes.

Beavers...

are nature's loggers. They cut down poplar trees or sometimes birch by chewing away at the trunks with their very large, sharp front teeth. . . . . .

Beavers build their homes in water from sticks and mud. They seem to be natural engineers. First they make a pond if they do not find a good lake spot, then they arrange sticks precisely to form their home.

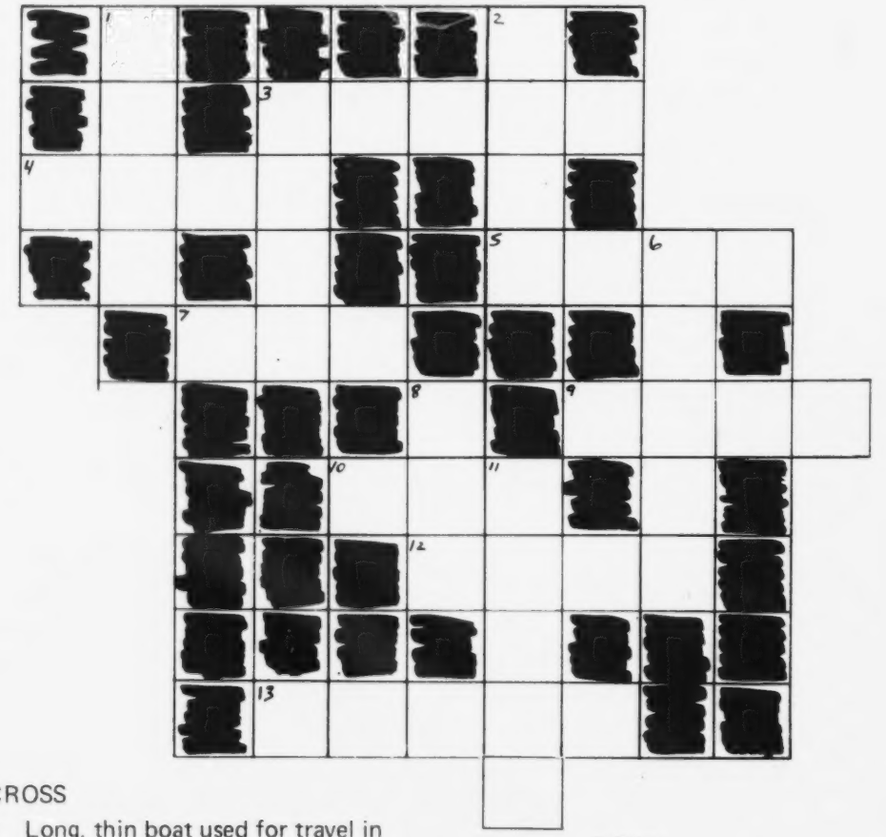
Beavers live inside their lodges in winter, above the water line, eating bark and tender twigs from the cache pile they stored up the fall before.



⇦ unfold

⇦ unfold

Easy Crossword



ACROSS

3 Long, thin boat used for travel in lakes and rivers

4 Very large black animal – loves berries and hibernates in winter.

5 Walleyes, rainbows and bluegills are names of _____ .

7 Wise, big bird who sleeps in the day.

9 Bird with webbed feet who loves water.

10 A frog likes to sit on a lily _____ .

12 A heavy cloth bag for carrying clothes, equipment and food on a canoe trip.

13 Largest of the woods animals.

DOWN

1 Large brown woods animal (like Bambi).

2 Grey furry dog-like animal - howls at the moon.

3 Large black bird – found near trash dumps.

6 Smelly animal – looks like a black cat with a white stripe down its back.

8 Drawing of an area showing the lakes, roads and towns.

11 White-petaled flower with yellow center – "Loves me, loves me not."

Treasure Hunt

Hike around your campsite or cabin, and see if you can find:

A lost or snagged fishing lure (careful!)

Chips from a beaver

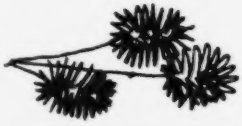
A purple flower

A moose track

Miniature pine tree

(Prince's Pine, Ground Pine)

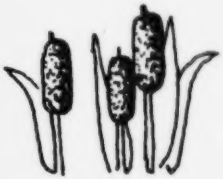
A white flower



A tag alder 'cone'

Fungus on a tree

A piece of driftwood



Cattail

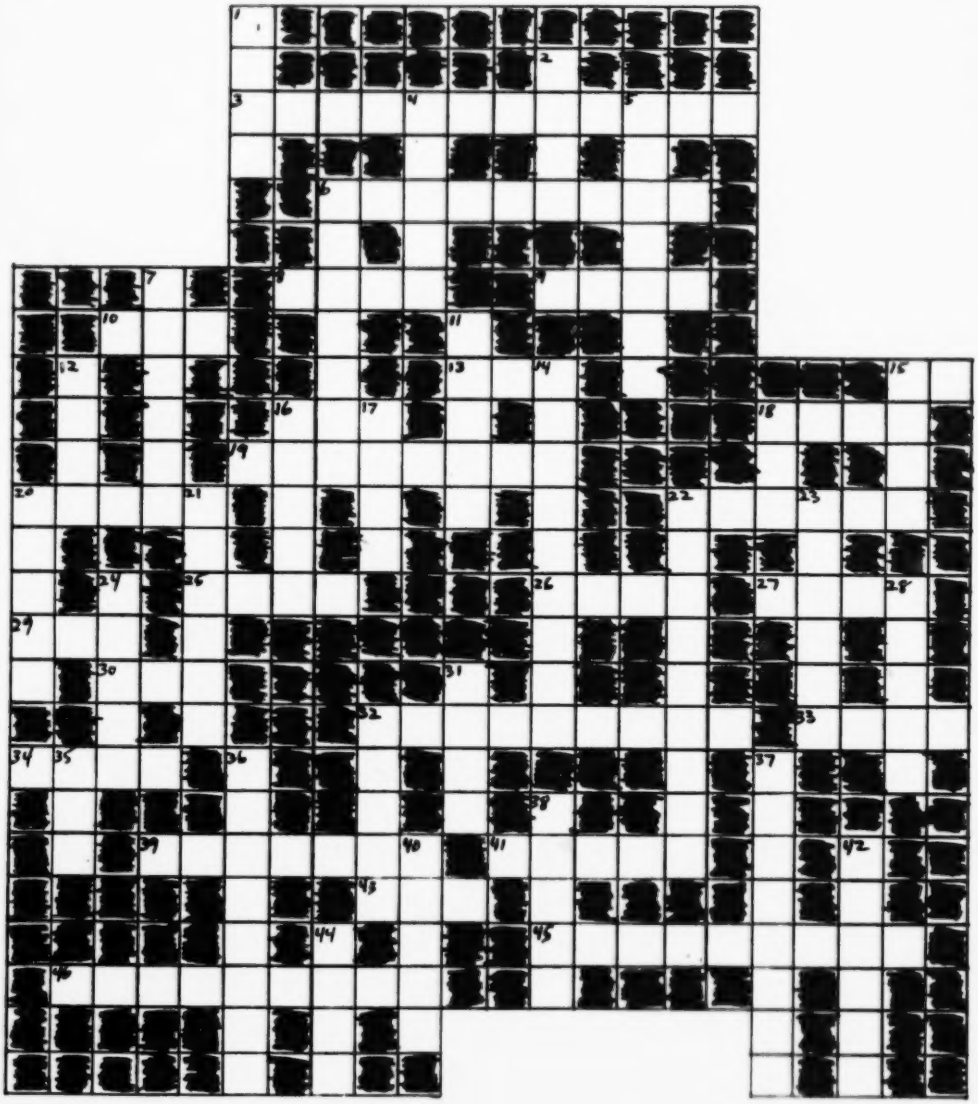
A rock worn smooth by waves

A piece of litter (please pick it up)

A feather

Woodpecker holes in a tree or log

Crossword



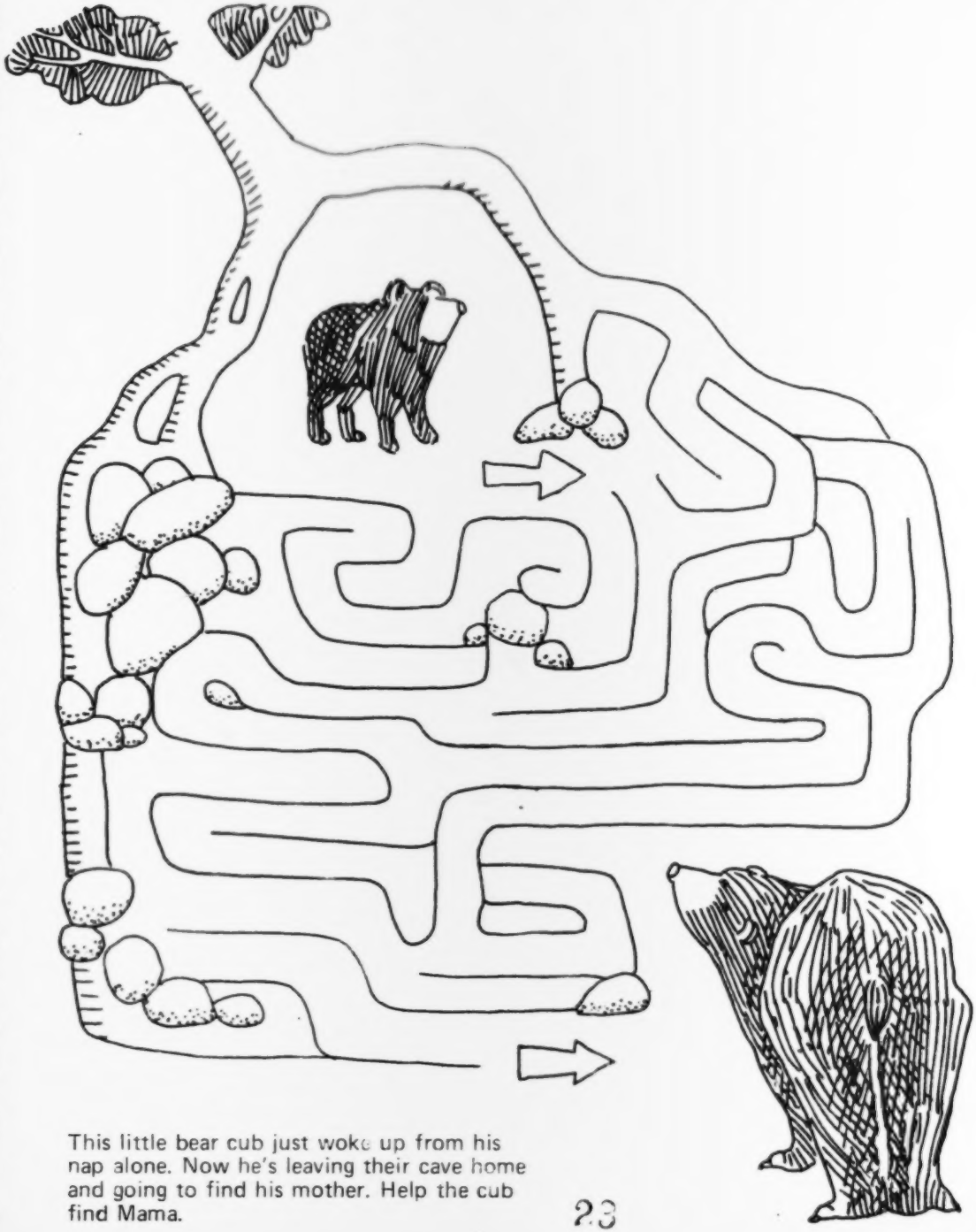
ACROSS

3 State flower of Minnesota.
6 Late-summer ripening berry – delicious in pies.
8 Web-footed fowl.
9 One of the largest woods animals – loves to eat '6 Across' and also '22 Down'
10 _____ alder brush; grows on roadsides and in low, swampy areas.
13 Part of the structure of a canoe.
16 Drawing of an area of land, showing routes, landmarks, roads, etc.
18 Seed pod of '2 Down'.
19 In history, an early French traveler.
20 Low, wet area of land – half lake and half land.
22 Brown furry hopping animal.
25 Runs swift as a _____.
26 Small-mouthed _____ are fun to catch.
27 Large yellow buzzing insect with a painful sting.
29 Hardwood, known for its beautiful grain – used for snowshoe frames.
30 Wise, old _____.
32 Little grey and white bird often seen in winter.
33 A staple food for Northland Indians through history – now expensive and considered a delicacy. "Wild _____".
34 Rod and _____, – used to catch fish.
39 Beautiful trout with many colors on its sides.
41 "Loves me; loves me not" – white flower with yellow center.
43 '22 Across' is known for having long _____s .
45 Large fish found in Lake Superior and inland lakes which is also called 'land-locked' salmon.
46 Cat-sized brown animal – has quills all over its body.

DOWN

1 Furry dog-like animal – Preys on '25 Across'.
2 A conifer
4 Smelly black "kitty".
5 Trail between lakes or around rapids.
6 Brightly-colored, loud scolding bird.
7 Conifer with greyish bark and pitch pockets on its trunk.
11 Basket to hold the day's catch.
12 Large black bird found near trash dumps.
14 Indians had many uses for this natural woods substance: making canoes, baskets and tipis. Campers often use it for kindling.
15 Camper's lightweight shelter.
16 The largest woods animal.
17 Cloth bag for carrying things, clothing and equipment on canoe trips.
18 Young one of '9 Across'.
20 _____ maple produces sap which can be cooked into syrup.
21 Used to propel '32 Down'.
22 Luscious red fruit on a fine-thorned bush.
23 Swimming animal that cuts down trees for its food and house.
24 The edge of a lake – where the water meets the land.
28 Yellow _____ – little frisky fish found in shallow waters.
31 Small brown animal with very soft, beautiful fur used for making coats.
32 Long, thin boat used for lake travel.
35 When fishing for lake trout, you may catch a lawyer, also called _____pout.
36 Little woods rodent with striped fur.
37 Only conifer with needles which turn color and fall in autumn.
38 Common hardwood tree – has large leaves which turn the brightest colors in fall.
40 Portages are routes around white _____ or rapids.
42 Balsam _____ can be used to make a very soft bed.
44 Historic Indian shelter.

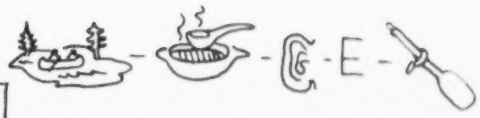
Find three very flat stones. Fold this book back and lay it flat. Stand back about four feet and toss the stones, aiming for the center. Play with friends, and keep score, or challenge yourself.



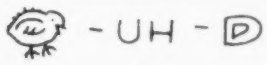
This little bear cub just woke up from his nap alone. Now he's leaving their cave home and going to find his mother. Help the cub find Mama.

Nature Nonsense

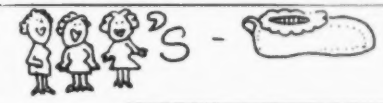
Find 11 things wrong in this picture.

1 

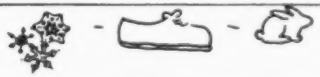
Largest fresh water lake in the world.

2 

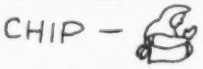
Little gray and white bird common at bird feeders in winter.

3 

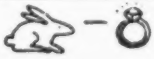
Showy orchid wildflower.

4 

Large-footed woods hopper.

5 

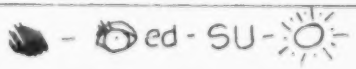
Small striped woods rodent.

6 

Common medium-sized fish, commercially fished in Lake Superior.

7

Prized game trout.

8 

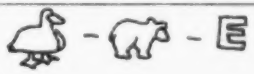
Golden wildflower, blooms in mid-summer.

9

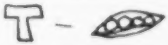
Tiny, heart-shaped red berry.

10

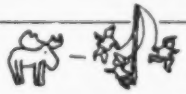
Insect that lights up at night.

11 

Tart, green berry – painful to pick.

12 

Indians' portable home.

13 

Prevalent bush with a maple-type leaf.

14

Large yellow pest with a painful sting.

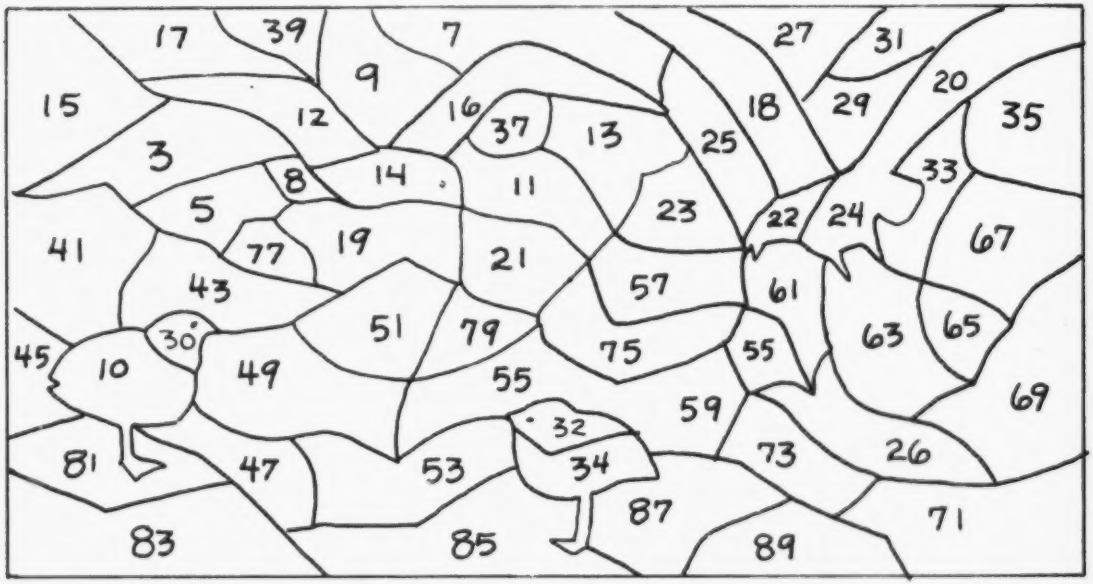
15

Early lake travelers who captured animals for their fur.

16

Small flying insect that buzzes and bites.

Gulls & Fish



Don't color any shapes with even numbers in them.

Color GREEN the odd-numbered shapes between 0 and 40.

Color BLUE the odd-numbered shapes between 40 and 80.

Color BROWN the odd-numbered shapes between 80 and 90.

Trip Journal

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:

Glossary

ASTER – abundant flowers that bloom in late summer – usually blue, purple or white.

BALSAM – prevalent conifer distinguished by pitch pockets on grayish bark. Needles arranged on opposite sides of twig – compare spruce. Cones point up.

BALSAM BOUGHS – due to flatness of needle arrangement, piled boughs make comfortable bedding.

BASS – prominent species is small-mouthed bass found in rocky areas. Usually caught with flashy spoons; excellent gamefish.

BEAVER – furry brown swimming mammals with broad tails and sharp teeth. Cut down poplar trees to build their houses and save the tender twigs for food.

BIRCH – Deciduous tree with white bark. Leaves turn bright yellow in fall.

BIRCHBARK – good kindling for campfires – when found on the ground. Peeling bark from a birch tree can kill the tree.

BLACK BEAR – famous for robbing food from campsites. Although they usually run from people, they may seem tame at times – but they still are wild animals.

BLACKFLY – small biting gnat most bothersome in the woods in the month of June.

BLACK-EYED SUSAN – member of the daisy family with golden petals and dark brown center.

BLUEBERRY – small, juicy, blue berries grow on a smooth-leaved plant. Ripen in August.

BLUEGILL – small panfish caught on worms – often from docks or shore.

BLUE JAY – bright blue bird seems to sound alarm throughout the woods when a person is approaching.

CANADIAN GEESE – large dark fowl usually seen migrating in V formation early spring and late fall.

CANOE – lightweight cigar-shaped boat historically used by Indians and trappers. Excellent for small lake and river travel.

CHICKADEE – small gray and white bird who calls, "Chick-a-dee-dee-dee."

CHIPMUNK – cute, striped rodent usually found stealing your food.

CHOKECHERRY – one of the first bushes to bloom – bearing very sour dark purple berries in late summer.

CONIFER – tree with needles. Stays green all year.

CROW – noisy black bird scavenger – loves picnic leftovers. Calls, "caw - caw."

DAISY – probably most common wildflower. Spicy smell – white petals with yellow center.

DECIDUOUS – tree with leaves which fall off every autumn.

DEER – graceful, horse-like, woods animal. When scared will flip up its tail showing a "white flag."

DUCK – web-footed fowl. Most feed on vegetation near shore.

DULUTH PACK – large canvas pack for carrying gear in the woods. Originally invented and made in early 1900's by Duluth Tent and Awning Co., Duluth, Minnesota – it has become standard equipment for outdoors trips.

FIREFLY – small flying insect which lights up. Usually spotted on July nights.

FISHER – vicious stocky predator. Rarely seen. Hunts rabbits and other small mammals.

GOOSEBERRY – tart green berry ripens to purple. Grows on a very thorny bush.

HERRING – very common tasty fish – commercially fished in Lake Superior.

HORNET – yellow flying insect with a painful, swelling sting. Usually encountered while raspberry picking.

INLAND LAKES – traditionally, lakes inland from Lake Superior, or the Great Lakes.

JUNEBERRY – large sweet berry growing on tall bushes – ripens late June to early July. When cooked, taste like cherry and almonds.

LADY'S SLIPPER – member of the orchid family. State flower of Minnesota.

LAKE TROUT – pink-fleshed cold-water gamefish. Grows to lunker size in deep, cool lakes.

MINK – small, slender mammal prized for its beautiful fur.

MOOSE – probably the largest woods animal in North America. Tracks are adult-size cloven (split) hoof.

MOOSE MAPLE – shrub, not a tree, with a maple-type leaf. Branches have many Y's – excellent for slingshots.

MOSQUITO – small buzzing (and biting) insect. Jokingly called, "Minnesota state bird."

MOUNTAIN ASH – small grey-trunked tree – grows clumps of red berries which stay on the tree all winter, supplying food for many birds and partridge.

OTTER – long, slender, furry mammal. Likes to play in the water and eats fish.

OWL – nocturnal bird – usually feeds on small rodents.

PADDLE – flat wooden implement used for propelling a canoe.

PARTRIDGE – ruffed grouse. Large bird living in forested areas – eats buds, mushrooms, clover, mountain ash berries. Gamebird with delicate flavor.

PINE – largest conifers in the forest.

PINE MARTEN – small, slender mammal. Lives in conifer forests. Noted for climbing trees and catching and eating squirrels.

POPLAR – aspen. Green-barked deciduous tree – most prevalent tree in northern forests.

PORCUPINE – medium-sized mammal covered with sharp quills. Rarely seen.

PORTAGE – trail from lake to lake or around non-navigable (dangerous) waters.

PRINCE'S PINE – really ground pine. A club moss that looks like miniature pine trees about 3-4 inches high. Popular for Christmas wreaths, alone or with mixed greens.

RAINBOW TROUT – silvery multi-colored sportfish.

RASPBERRY – multicelled red juicy berry – ripens in August. Bears and people love them.

RIB – U-shaped part of canoe frame originally made by bending steamed wood.

SEAGULLS – white and gray scavenger birds found around large bodies of water. Usually seen gracefully gliding on upper air currents.

SKUNK – black and white mammal which protects itself by standing on its front legs and spraying an odiferous scent. Watch out!

SNOWSHOE RABBIT – rabbit noted for its brown fur turning white in winter and for its large feet resembling snowshoes.

SPRUCE – conifer noted for its needle arrangement all around the twig. Compare balsam.

SQUIRREL – small rodent noted mainly for its chattering and running or chasing each other around campsites.

SUGAR MAPLE – deciduous tree turning brilliant colors in fall. Known for producing a sweet sap in early spring used in making maple syrup.

SUPERIOR – largest of the Great Lakes in the United States and the largest fresh water lake in the world.

SWAMP – low, wet land usually covered with moss.

TAG ALDER – deciduous brush found along roadsides and in low areas. Noted for having a seed pod similar to a miniature pine cone.

TAMARACK – larch. Only conifer that loses its needles; they turn a brilliant gold and fall in late autumn. Grows in damp soil. Very fine needles.

THIMBLEBERRY – bush in the rose family which produces multicelled red berries, shaped like thimbles and having many tiny seeds. Sweet, but has a faint, musky taste.

TRAPPERS – Historically, some of the earliest travelers through northern woods. Trapping fur-bearing animals to sell their furs.

VIOLET – very common small wildflower, yellow, white, or purple. Blooms in early spring.

VOYAGEURS – French explorers who traveled in the north woods and used the lakes and rivers as their highway.

WALLEYE PIKE – yellowish gamefish noted for its big eyes, spiny dorsal fin and delicious meat. Good nightfeeder. Can be caught with most lures or bait.

WEASEL – very thin-bodied mammal – brown fur in summer, turns white in winter (ermine).

WHISKEY JACK – Canadian jay, gray jay. Gray bird usually found around every campsite. Very bold and loves sandwiches.

WILD RICE – grass native to shallow northern lakes. Gathered and eaten as a staple by North American Indians.

WILD STRAWBERRY – small replica of domestic strawberry plants. Tiny berries, sweet and flavorful. Usually takes a long time to pick a cupful.

WOLF – woods dog-like carnivore. Feeds on deer, moose and small animals.

WOODPECKER – medium-sized bird heard tapping into dead trees looking for bugs.

YELLOW PERCH – small gamefish found in shallow, weedy areas. Easy to catch on worms.

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